

FILED BY

Leslie Newman
Executive Director
LSA 9/17/99

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

In the Matter of :
: Administrative Action
SANDRA SHEPARD LSW :
: :
Licensed to practice Social Work: CONSENT ORDER
in the State of New Jersey :
:

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Social Work Examiners ("the Board") upon receipt of information that Sandra Shepard ("respondent"), a Licensed Social Worker ("LSW"), had placed advertisements in newspapers offering psychotherapy as part of her independent practice. The respondent appeared with her attorney, Susan Di Maria, Esq., at an investigative inquiry before the Board on April 21, 1999. Respondent testified that she did not receive any responses to her advertisements offering psychotherapy. However, respondent testified that she did provide psychotherapy to clients who were referred to her through a program called "Women for Women". The therapy occurred in her office, and she was paid a set fee per client by Women for Women. Further, respondent provided psychotherapy without supervision as required by N.J.A.C. 13:44G-8.1.

Having reviewed the entire record, including the testimony of

respondent, it appears to the Board that respondent failed to conform to standard social work practice in the State of New Jersey. Respondent practiced beyond her scope as an LSW when she offered to provide psychotherapy in an independent setting, and when she provided psychotherapy without appropriate supervision. This conduct violates N.J.S.A. 45:15BB-4(c), N.J.A.C. 13:44G-3.2, and N.J.A.C. 13:44G-4.1.

It appearing that respondent desires to resolve this matter without recourse to formal proceedings and for good cause shown:

IT IS ON THIS *7th* DAY OF *September* 1999,

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

1. Respondent shall cease and desist from offering to provide or providing psychotherapy in an independent setting and/or without supervision.

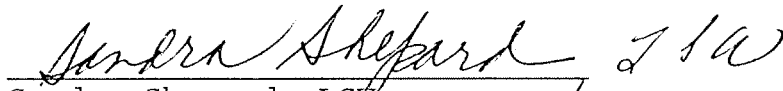
2. Respondent is hereby assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$250.00 for practicing beyond her scope. Respondent shall pay the penalty in three payments. The first payment of eighty dollars (\$80.00) shall be due upon the signing of the within Consent Order. The second payment of eighty dollars (\$80.00) shall be due on or by October 1, 1999, and the third payment of ninety dollars (\$90.00) shall be due on or by November 1, 1999. The payments shall be by certified check or money order, payable to the State of New Jersey, and sent to Leslie Aronson, Executive Director, State Board of Social Work Examiners, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

3. If respondent chooses to provide psychotherapy, she shall

do so in an appropriate setting and under the supervision of a supervisor approved by the Board. Respondent shall submit to the Board for its approval, the name of the supervisor and her/his educational and experiential qualifications, as well as credentials. Respondent shall further submit to the Board quarterly reports from her supervisor for the period of one year from the commencement of supervision. The reports may be copies of the quarterly progress reports which the supervisor is required to provide to the social worker pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:44G-8.1 (f).


Mariagnes Lattimer, MSW, LCSW

I have read the within Order and understand its terms. I hereby consent to its entry and to be bound by the Order's terms.


Sandra Shepard, LSW